

TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 10000/209
Serial No. 10/719,764	Filing Date November 21, 2003	Examiner TBA	Group Art Unit TBA
Inventor(s) David M. Hardin et al.			
Title of Invention LOOP TIP WIRE GUIDE			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is Transmittal Letter in duplicate; Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449; postcard.

Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

Petition for a \_\_\_\_\_ month extension of time.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total		Minus		
Indep.		Minus		
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				

Small Entity		Other Than Small Entity	
or			
Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
x \$9 =		x \$18 =	
x 43 =		x \$86 =	
+ \$145 =		+ \$290 =	
Total add'l fee	\$	Total add'l fee	\$

Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Matos Michael  
Registration No. 47,793  
Attorney for Applicant  
Customer No. 00757 - Brinks Hofer Gilson Lione

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(312) 321-4200

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 2, 2004.

Date:

3/2/04

Signature:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1650, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

March 2, 2004

Date of Deposit

Carmen Matos Michael

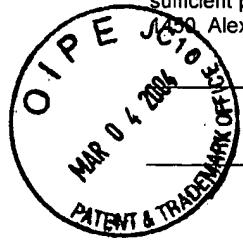
Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative



Signature

March 2, 2004

Date of Signature



Our Case No.: 10000/209

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

David M. Hardin et al.

Examiner:

Serial No.: 10/719,764

Group Art Unit No.:

Filing Date: November 21, 2003

For: LOOP TIP WIRE GUIDE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

Patent No.	Date	Name
4,281,660	8/4/81	Fujiwara
5,643,281	7/1/97	Suhocki et al.
5,904,648	5/18/99	Arndt et al.
6,056,743	5/2/00	Ellis et al.
6,102,918	8/15/00	Kerr
6,277,139 B1	8/21/01	Levinson et al.
6,371,970 B1	4/16/02	Khosravi et al.
6,379,319 B1	4/30/02	Garibotto et al.
US 2002/0016604 A1	2/7/02	Boock et al.
US 2002/0032455 A1	3/14/02	Boock et al.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of the information disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more

than three months prior to filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Carmen Matos Michael  
Registration No. 47,793  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Chicago, IL 60610  
(312) 321-4200



FORM PTO-1449  LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO. 10/719,764	CASE NO. 10000/209
	FILING DATE November 21, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT
	APPLICANT(S): David M. Hardin et al.	

**REFERENCE DESIGNATION**
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1 4,281,660	8/4/81	Fujiwara		
	A2 5,643,281	7/1/97	Suhocki et al.		
	A3 5,904,648	5/18/99	Arndt et al.		
	A4 6,056,743	5/2/00	Ellis et al.		
.	A5 6,102,918	8/15/00	Kerr		
	A6 6,277,139 B1	8/21/01	Levinson et al.		
.	A7 6,371,970 B1	4/16/02	Khosravi et al.		
	A8 6,379,319 B1	4/30/02	Garibotto et al.		
	A9 US 2002/0016604 A1	2/7/02	Boock et al.		
	A10 US 2002/0032455 A1	3/14/02	Boock et al.		
A11					
A12					
A13					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
A14					
A15					
A16					
A17					
A18					

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)
.	A19
	A20
.	A21
	A22
	A23
	A24

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.